



**City of Santa Barbara
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**Regular monthly meeting of
THE WESTSIDE CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 11, 2008

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The Westside Center Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Acting Chairperson Rosalina Palacios at 7:10 PM at the Westside Community Center., 423 West Victoria Street, Santa Barbara, CA.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Rosalina Palacios
Gloria Franco
Raquel Vela Mendoza
Jesús Rodríguez

Members Absent

Vidal Chiprez
Carlos Guerrero

Staff Present

Antonio A. Velasquez, Community Services Supervisor
Lorraine Cruz-Carpenter, Adopt-A-Block

Liaisons Present

None

Guests

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: It was moved (Rodríguez) and seconded (Mendoza) to approve the minutes as read. Passed unanimously.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jesus announced that the recently closed pot shop on the 200 block of W. Victoria Street might still be in operation. He said that the smell of marijuana is still evident in the early mornings and late evenings. He has noted also that there is heavy traffic in that area during those times. Staff mentioned the article in the Santa Barbara News Press regarding the Community Services Mobile Farmer's market Program at the Westside Center. Lorraine

announced a cleanup on the Eastside on Saturday from 9 AM to noon. Those interested will be meeting at the Franklin Center. Rosalina announced the Moose hall Anniversary Dinner on Sunday. Gloria also announced a benefit dinner to be held at Holy Cross Catholic Church on Sunday. Antonio announced that he will be on jury duty until October 3.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. **Community Garden Report** – Staff announced that all garden plots have been rented with a waiting list of seventeen. Staff reported incidences of vegetable theft at the gardens is continuing and a lockable fence door is being contemplated.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Community Center Park Area Renovation Project** – Staff informed the Committee that the project was still on track to begin this winter

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Adopt-A-Block** – The Committee heard a presentation from Lorraine Cruz-Carpenter regarding the effort now underway to recruit neighborhood residents to adopt their neighborhood streets to keep them in a clean and safe condition. The members were very receptive to working on this project and discussed adopting a two-block area around the Westside Community Center and on Victoria Street to State Street.
- b. **Committee Vacancies Recruitment** – Staff presented information on the current vacancies existing on the Committee. Gloria Franco, Raquel Mendoza and Rosalina must reapply if they wish to remain on the Committee. In addition, there is a Public At large vacancy to be filled.
- c. **Neighborhood Preservation Projects 2009** – The Committee discussed the need for steps on both sides of the Micheltorena Street bridge at Euclid and San Pascual Streets as potential neighborhood preservation projects to refer to CDBG for possible funding.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:00 PM, there being no further business to come before the committee, the Westside Center Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned by Acting Chairperson, Rosalina Palacios

Respectfully submitted,
Antonio A. Velasquez
Community Services Supervisor